

**Draft Summary of Recreation and Socioeconomics Work Group Meeting
Oroville Facilities Relicensing (FERC Project No. 2100)
December 7, 2000**

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) hosted the Recreation and Socioeconomics Work Group kick-off meeting on December 7, 2000 in Oroville. The intent of the kick-off meeting was to identify basic operating guidelines for Work Group participants, including Ground Rules, meeting dates, expectations, roles, and commitments. The Recreation and Socioeconomics Work Group also added items to a recreation and socioeconomic issues list developed at the Public Briefing held on June 29, 2000 and the Public Meeting held on November 15, 2000. Collectively, these actions should provide a foundation to allow the Recreation and Socioeconomics Work Group to fulfill its role in the relicensing process under the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) Alternative Licensing Procedures (ALP). Through the ALP, DWR will engage a collaborative approach to consult with Federal and State resources agencies, Indian Tribes, local organizations, non-governmental agencies (NGOs), and other interested parties.

A summary of the discussion, decisions made, and action items is provided below. This summary is not intended to be a transcript, analysis of the meeting, or to indicate agreement or disagreement with any of the items summarized, except where expressly stated. The intent is to present a summary of the discussion for information purposes for interested parties who could not attend the meeting.

Introduction

Attendees were welcomed to the Recreation and Socioeconomics Work Group kick-off meeting. The meeting objectives were discussed: (1) accept Work Group Ground Rules; (2) define Work Group participant roles and expectations; and (3) add to a list of recreation and socioeconomic issues developed during the June 29 Public Briefing and November 15 Public Meeting. The Recreation and Socioeconomics Work Group Meeting agenda and list of meeting attendees and their affiliations are appended to this summary as Attachments 1 and 2, respectively.

- The facilitator discussed a set of Ground Rules for participants and the facilitator. The Ground Rules were presented as a collection of expected actions and behavior that have worked well in other relicensing processes. The Ground Rules could change to meet the needs of the Recreation and Socioeconomics Work Group contingent upon agreement from participants. After some discussion, the participants expressed general agreement with the Ground Rules. The Ground Rules are appended to this summary as Attachment 3.
- Participants discussed potential decision-making methods for the Recreation and Socioeconomic Work Group. The facilitator stated the Work Group could agree on adopting a method (e.g., show of hands, head nodding, etc.). One participant discussed whether the Work Group should develop written agreements on decision-making practices. The facilitator stated the Work

Group could choose to formalize a decision-making agreement and indicated the Plenary Group also initiated a discussion on development of a decision-making process.

- The role of the facilitator in the relicensing process was described; the facilitator is a neutral entity and acts as an advocate for the relicensing process, not a particular outcome. As a neutral party the facilitator's job is to work with the participants to develop a Roadmap and guide the relicensing process to achieve the goals and objectives of the Recreation and Socioeconomic Work Group. The Roadmap is attached to this summary as Attachment 4. If the facilitator's neutrality is questioned the issue should be brought to the group for discussion.
- The facilitator discussed the need for balanced representation among the participants in the Recreation and Socioeconomics Work Group. The group agreed that representation among potential participants appeared to be good and suggested specific groups not in attendance, e.g., marina owners and houseboat owners could be contacted.
- One participant asked DWR's expectation of the Recreation and Socioeconomics Work Group. DWR responded that the Recreation and Socioeconomics Work Group would contribute toward preparation of a Recreation Plan to be included in the license application.

Roles and Expectations

The facilitator discussed the three-tiered Group Structure proposed for the Oroville Facilities relicensing process; the three tiers are the Plenary Group, Work Groups, and Task Forces. Each tier of the Group Structure was defined with special emphasis and discussion on the roles and responsibilities of the Work Group. The Work Group was described as a resource specific group that provides information and recommendations to the Plenary Group. Each Work Group will potentially assign a contact person to communicate information and recommendations to the Plenary Group.

- The Recreation and Socioeconomic Work Group was described as a very large interdisciplinary team. The group discussed their ability to split and re-join based on informational needs in a specific interest area. Task Forces will organize to perform focused investigations on specific issues.
- One participant asked about the authority of the Plenary Group to change Work Group derived recommendations. The Plenary Group is responsible for resolving conflicts and discussing settlement of issues between Work Groups. The Plenary Group is not intended to resolve conflicts within a Work Group; instead technical expertise within Work Groups will guide issues to resolution. Also, the Plenary Group recognizes the high level of technical expertise within Work Groups such that Work Group recommendations would be considered credible and authoritative.

- The facilitator described a planning framework to develop a Recreation Plan for inclusion in DWR's license application. Described as a Roadmap, the framework outlined steps the Recreation and Socioeconomics Work Group would follow to fulfill their responsibilities. The roadmap describes seven steps: (1) Work Group Mission, (2) Framework, (3) Education, (4) Information, (5) Negotiation, (6) Review, and (7) Agreement. This Roadmap should ultimately lead to a Final Plan. The Roadmap includes a description of the level of participant effort required during each stage of development of the Final Plan.

Work Group Schedule

A draft schedule of Work Group activities for 2001 was distributed to participants (Attachment 5). DWR explained the Work Group's function in relation to activities outlined in the draft schedule and the objective of fulfilling FERC's relicensing requirements. One important goal is to begin field studies by November 2001. Work Groups will contribute to development of the Scoping Document for specific issue areas by the end of April 2001. Scoping Document development allows an additional opportunity for the public to provide input and determine issue areas to be studied during the relicensing process.

- DWR emphasized the urgency of moving quickly through the scoping process to optimize the amount of time available to develop Study Plans and gather data. DWR also recognized the schedule as very ambitious and that the Recreation and Socioeconomic Work Group must commit to work together to begin field studies by the November 2001 target date.
- One participant asked whether this group or a sub-group could begin to identify issues that could be resolved prior to formal relicensing deadlines, e.g., opening an access gate. DWR responded that the Work Group and Plenary Group could agree on a near-term action and possibly implement it prior to submitting the license application in 2005.
- Participants discussed the potential of meeting more often to help facilitate the process. Task Forces were mentioned as a way to quickly focus on specific areas, e.g., recreation in the North Forebay and make subsequent reports to the Work Group.
- The Work Group was provided a long-term schedule (Attachment 6) that outlines DWR's anticipated schedule of activities required to complete its license application for submittal to FERC in January 2005.
- The group agreed to initially meet once a month and chose the fourth Thursday of each month; this will avoid conflicts with local organization's regularly scheduled meetings and may increase local participation in the relicensing process.

Initial Information Package

The Initial Information Package (IIP) is an informational document provided by the licensee to participants and FERC during the relicensing process. The IIP includes a project description, description of environmental resources, information on issues and important topics, and outlines environmental studies significant to the relicensing process. It is a “big picture” document focusing Work Group efforts on identifying additional issues and obtaining necessary information. The IIP is used to develop the Scoping Document and will be available to the public in January 2001.

- The IIP is the precursor to a more detailed environmental document that will be prepared as part of the relicensing process. The IIP will be incorporated into the project description and environmental setting sections of the environmental document and will be used as background information as Work Groups proceed through their investigations and studies.
- DWR added that as part of developing the IIP an inventory of recreation facilities identified for development in past recreation plans and built as part of the Oroville facility was being conducted.
- The IIP will be available for review in January 2001. Additional historical information, other agency plans, and other documents will be available in the five-year project library file. The project library will be available in late February 2001.
- DWR informed Recreation and Socioeconomic Work Group participants that the formal request to use the ALP had been sent to FERC for approval; FERC will initiate the process of soliciting public comment on DWR’s ALP request. FERC allows a 30-day comment period before they make a final determination. DWR encouraged participants to submit comments to FERC supporting the ALP.
- Several participants asked whether the California State Department of Parks and Recreation would be part of the Recreation and Socioeconomics Work Group. DWR stated the Department of Parks and Recreation is part of the relicensing process and would participate in Recreation and Socioeconomics Work Group activities.

Issues and Interests

During the June 29, 2000 Public Briefing and November 15, 2001 Public Meeting, participants developed a list of issues that the Recreation and Socioeconomics Work Group may want to consider in their investigations and studies. The facilitator asked the Work Group to consider the list of issues and to add any new issues not listed. The list of issues is shown in Attachment 7.

- One participant asked about the JPA and its purpose. It was explained that the Oroville Joint Powers Authority (JPA) is a group of private and public

entities working under a joint powers agreement to help represent public recreation interests in the relicensing process. Members of the JPA include:

- City of Oroville
 - County of Butte
 - Feather River Recreation District
 - City of Gridley
 - Town of Paradise
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- One participant asked why an issue raised at the November 15 Public Meeting regarding equal access to recreation for all regardless of race had not been included in the list of issues presented today. DWR stated that this item had been moved to the Plenary Group for consideration.

Next Meeting

The Recreation and Socioeconomics Work Group agreed to the following date and time for its next meeting:

Date: Thursday, January 25, 2001
Time: 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm
Location: The Eagles Hall

The Recreation and Socioeconomics Work Group meeting was adjourned at 9 pm.

**Recreation and Socioeconomics Work Group Meeting
Oroville Facilities Relicensing (FERC Project No. 2100)
December 7, 2001**

Agreements Made

1. Participants expressed general agreement with the Ground Rules.
2. While recognizing that the draft Work Group schedule for 2001 was ambitious, participants expressed general agreement with the schedule and Group Structure.
3. Participants expressed general agreement with the roles and expectations as presented by the facilitator.
4. The Recreation and Socioeconomics Work Group agreed to meet on the fourth Thursday of each month unless otherwise agreed upon.

Action Items

The following list of action items identified by the Recreation and Socioeconomics Work Group includes a description of the action, the participant responsible for the action, and item status.

Action Item #1: Include meeting notices in the Paradise Post newspaper.
Responsible: DWR.
Due Date: On-going.

Action Item #2: Participating agencies to develop a summary of their specific statutory authorities, if any, guidelines, policies and management plans that govern their participation in the relicensing effort.

Responsible: Participating Agencies.

Due Date: Report to Work Group at January 25, 2001 meeting.

Action Item #3: Provide Recreation and Socioeconomics Work Group with a briefing regarding Oroville Facilities operation.

Responsible: DWR Staff.

Due Date: Report to Work Group at January 25, 2001 meeting.

Action Item #4: Participants with additional Recreation and Socioeconomic Work Group issues should send them to DWR staff prior to the next Work Group meeting.

Responsible: Work Group Participants.

Due Date: January 12, 2001.

**Recreation and Socioeconomics Work Group Meeting Agenda
Oroville Facilities Relicensing (FERC Project No. 2100)
December 7, 2000**

Agenda

Desired Outcomes

- *Acceptance of Ground Rules*
- *Concurrence on Work Group Schedule and Mandate*
- *Commitment to and Understanding of Roles and Expectations by all Participants*
- *Identification of Recreation and Socioeconomics Issues*

- 1. Welcome, Opening Remarks, Introductions**
- 2. Agenda and Ground Rules**
- 3. Work Group Mandate**
- 4. Work Group Schedule**
- 5. Elements of the Initial Information Package**
 - Recreation
 - Socioeconomics
- 6. Issues and Interests**
 - Recreation
 - Socioeconomics
- 7. Action Items and Next Steps**

**Recreation and Socioeconomics Work Group Meeting Attendees
Oroville Facilities Relicensing (FERC Project No. 2100)**

Gordon Andoe	City of Oroville
Andy Atkinson	CA Department of Fish & Game
Leo Battle	Chico Bass Club / BBAC
Ray Bell	Oroville Foundation of Flight
Gary Braater	LOBO
Kevin Brock	Feather River Guides Association
Jim Bryant	Resident
David Bryning	Paradise Sporting Goods
Roger Calloway	California State Parks
Steve Carson	Chico Bass Club
Brad Corkin	Oroville Water Ski Club
Ron Davis	Oroville Pageant Riders / California Horseman's Association
James DiGiorgio	Department of Boating and Waterways
Armando Dilger	Resident
Dick Dunkel	LOFEC / Paradise Chamber of Commerce
Wayne Dyok	HARZA / EDAW
Frank Ferguson	Plumas National Forest
Lorraine Frazier	Mooretown Rancheria
Jim Gaumer	Chico Area Flyfishers
Cathy Hodges	Equestrian Trail Riders
Dale Hoffman-Floerke	DWR / Environmental Compliance & Evaluation Branch
Bettie Ann Hough	Butte Sailing Club
Wade Hough	Butte Sailing Club
Tricia Humpherys	U.S. Forest Service
Mike Hurst	LOBO Bicycle Club
D.C.Jones	Resident
Craig Jones	State Water Contractors
Frances Kelley	Butte County Citizens for Fair Government
Mike Kelley	Butte County Tax Payers Association
Paul King	LOFEC
Garry Knox	Anglers Choice / Chico Bass / Myself
Scott Lawrence	Feather River Recreation and Park District
Peter Maki	Feather River Nature Center
Rick McCullough	LOBO Bicycle Club
Mike Meinz	CA Department of Fish & Game
Peter Miller	Recreation / Chico Paddleheads
Steve Nachtman	HARZA / EDAW
Nan Nalder	Acres International / State Water Contractors
Greg Passmore	Oroville Water Ski Club
John Peconom	Kleinschmidt
Rick Ramirez	Department of Water Resources
Bill Rogers	Oro Water Ski Club
Bob Sharkey	Feather River Recreation and Park District
Merton Short	Experimental Aircraft Association
Mark Stahl	Butte Sailing Club
Dave Steindorf	American Whitewater / Chico Paddleheads
Linda Stonier	National Park Service
Ward Tabor	Department of Water Resources – OCC
Lee Tatro	Angler Choice
Vene Thompson	Life Resident
Ron Turner	Oroville Foundation of Flight
Mike Vrooman	Resident
Patricia Watters	Metropolitan Water District
David Whitewolf	Pacific Cherokee Tribal Council / NANRC

Ground Rules
Oroville Facilities Relicensing (FERC Project No. 2100)

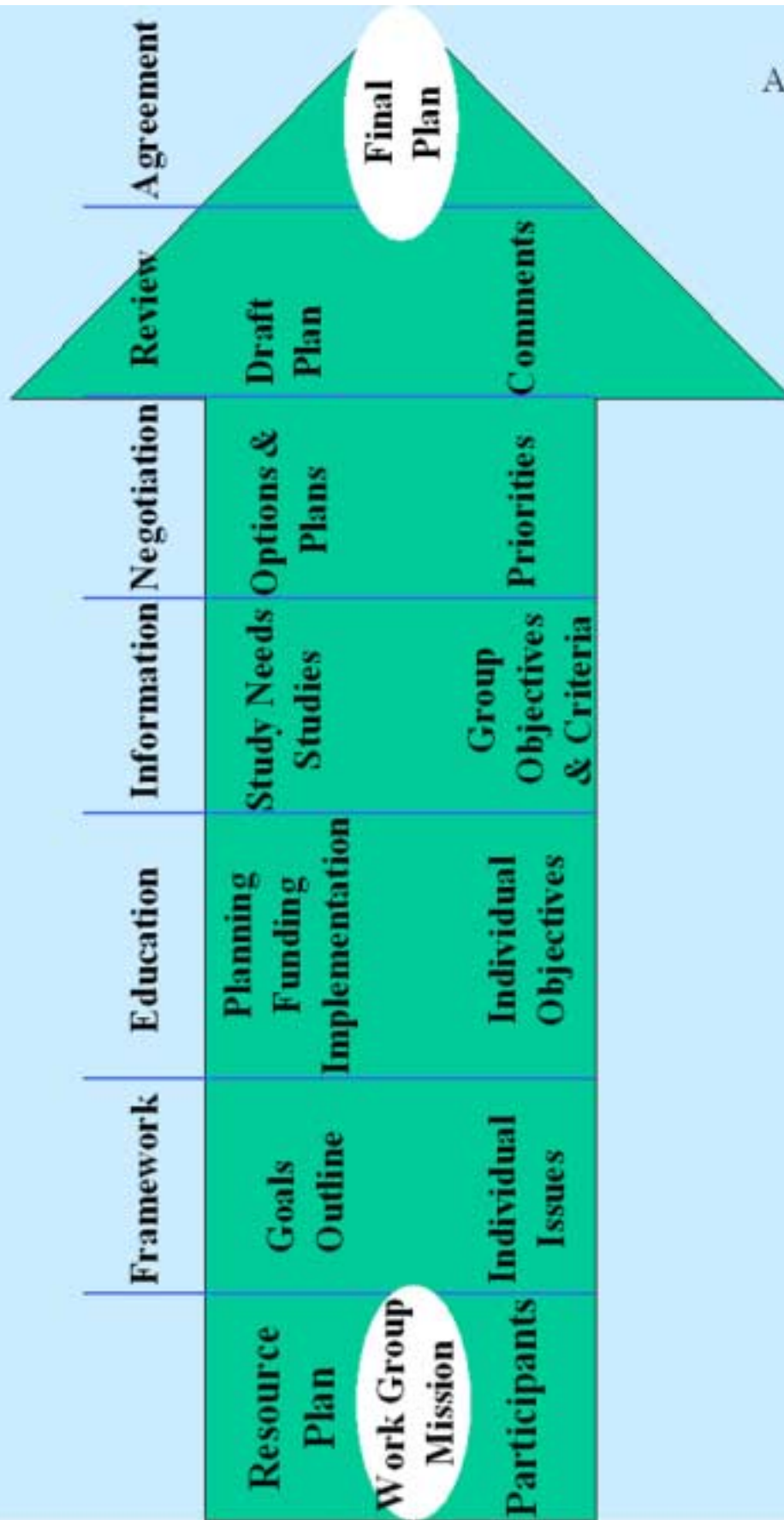
Ground Rules for Participants

- Actively participate
- Respect others
- Be brief and prepared
- One person speak at a time
- Oroville Facilities relicensing focus
- Listen to each other
- Leave 'baggage' at the door
- Communicate interests, not positions
- Help involve all
- Seek solutions for all
- No 'gunny sacking'

Ground Rules for Facilitator

- Help group accomplish objectives
- Help guide discussion
- Enforce participant ground rules
- Help involve all
- Ask 'why' to clarify
- Manage time
- Track actions, next steps, deadline

Oroville Relicensing Project Work Group Roadmap

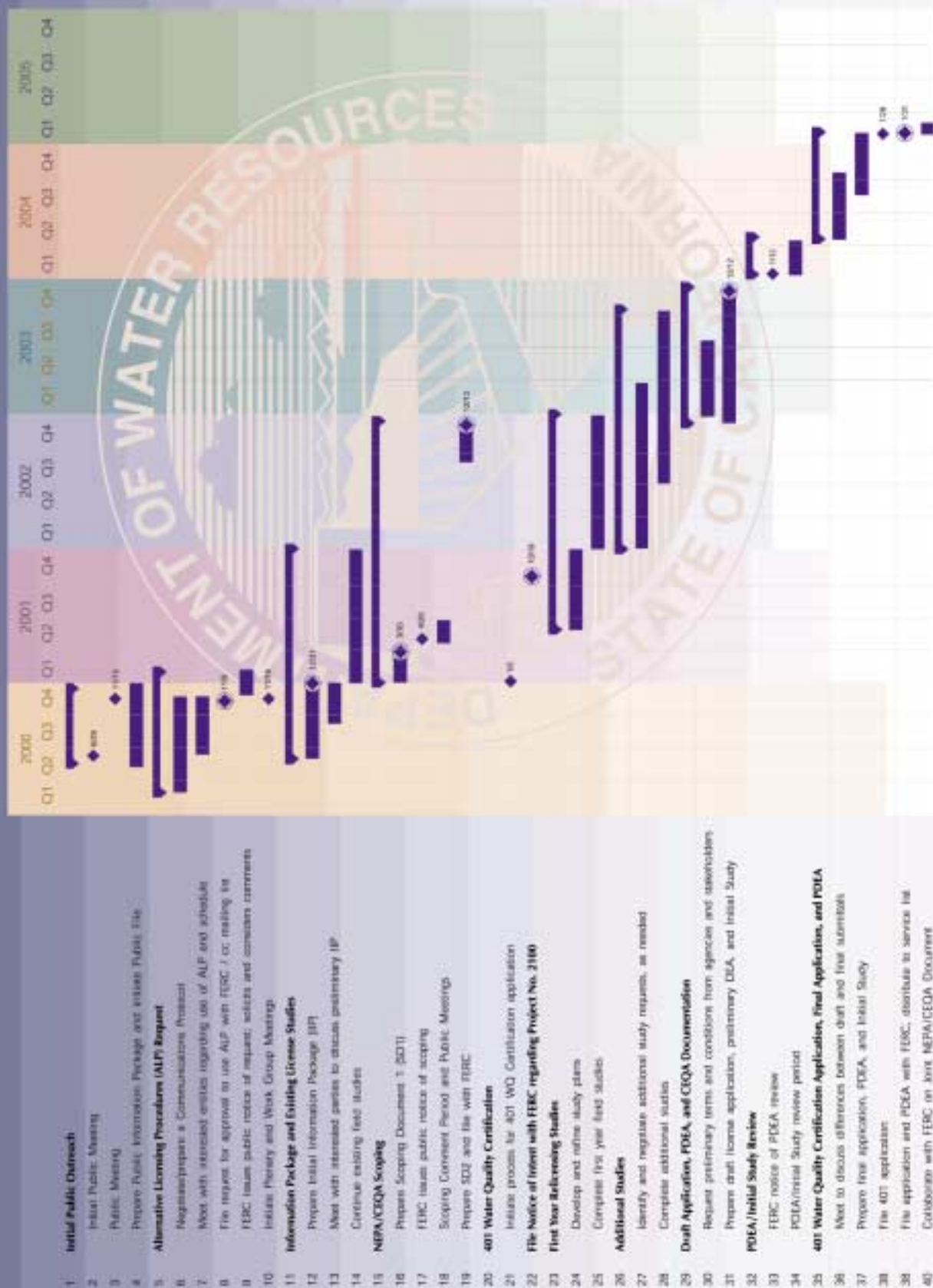


Attachment 4

**Year 2001 Schedule
Oroville Facilities Relicensing (FERC Project No. 2100)**

<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Initial Information Package (IIP)	Early January
Plenary Group Meeting	January 18
Work Group Meetings	
Issues Identification	January/February
Issue Development	February/March/April
Study Plan Development	April to August
Scoping Document	April 30
Scoping Meeting/Site Visit	May 31
Comments on Scoping Document	July 30
Meetings on Scoping Document Comments	August
Finalize Study Plans	October
Initiate Field Studies	November

OROVILLE FACILITIES RELICENSING ALTERNATIVE LICENSING PROCEDURES (ALP) PRELIMINARY DRAFT SCHEDULE



Notes from Flip Charts Oroville Facilities Relicensing (FERC Project No. 2100)

The following list was recorded on flip charts during the Recreation and Socioeconomics Work Group Meeting. The flip chart listing is not intended to indicate agreement or disagreement with the items listed; the intent is to provide a summary for informational purposes for interested parties who could not attend the meeting.

Recreation / Socioeconomics

- Next meeting - Fourth Thursday of each month in the evening 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm
- Clean-up:
 - Garbage
 - Invasive species
 - Construction debris
 - Power lines – camouflage them
- Fire issue – CCC assistance for clean-up
- North forebay development and visibility of swimming opportunities – sand beach surround
- Expand uses of forebay for boating education – boating safety
- Shooting carp – at Oroville – investigate use at Oroville for this activity
- Water temperature below dam (too cold for swimming) warm it up
- Debris program established on regular schedule
- Tournament water skiing (economic draw)
- Open forks of lake for activity
- Gate the log booms – like at Shasta
- Facility operation – agency plans, policies, mandates pertaining to Lake Oroville and potential and method of adjustment if any
- No new development should impact established recreation sites and use of cultural sites
- Loss of whitewater recreation opportunities and potential mitigation for loss (whitewater park)
- Long-term fisheries management plan – funded full-time biologist for the lake
- Water primrose invasive to shallow areas – waterfowl nesting areas lost
- Consider changes in flow rates on recreational fishing
- More emphasis on steelhead and less on salmon
- Evaluate salmon numbers
- Rearing bass (plants) barbless hooks for steelhead catch / release of females
- Flash board dam on Feather River behind Matthews ready-mix needs to be replaced
- Multi-use trails
- Pave existing RR grade
- Restrooms upgraded at fish cleaning stations
- Indian burial grounds around lake
- Opportunities for expanded commercialization – barriers infrastructure needed to bring dollars into system
- Protection of cultural sites along RR grade
 - Send to Cultural Work Group
 - Re-burial of exhumed bodies currently stored in West Sacramento
 - Go directly to EIS, not EA

Notes from Flip Charts (cont.)
Oroville Facilities Relicensing (FERC Project No. 2100)

- Next Recreation and Socioeconomics Work Group meeting

Date: Thursday, January 25, 2001

Time: 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Place: The Eagles Hall

Fourth Thursday of each month unless otherwise agreed upon.

- Contact Information

<http://orovillerelicensing.water.ca.gov>

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